



# Opening Doors

*Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness :: 2010*

September 2011

Iowa Housing Conference





# Overview

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- 10 Plan Implementation
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# USICH Core Purpose

- ⑩ **Make an impact**: maximize the effectiveness of the Federal Government's contribution to preventing and ending
- ⑩ **Coordinate**: coordinate the federal response to homelessness
- ⑩ **Partner**: create national partnership at every level of government and with private sector to end and prevent homelessness



# Developing the Plan

**USICH Full Council**

**Council Policy Group**

**Strategy Group**

## **Workgroups**

Chronic  
Veterans  
Families  
Youth  
Community

## **Public Input**

Expert Panels  
Regional ICHs  
Community Forums  
Online Input  
Hill Staff



# Vision



10 **No one** should experience homelessness.

10 **No one** should be without a safe, stable place to call **home**.





# Goals & Targets



Finish the job of ending **chronic homelessness** in **5 years**



# Goals & Targets



Prevent and end homelessness  
among **Veterans** in **5 years**



# Goals & Targets



Prevent and End Homelessness for  
**Families, Youth, and Children** in  
**10 years**





# Goals & Targets



Set a path to ending all types of  
homelessness



# The Plan

## **Increase leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement**

- 1. Provide and promote collaborative leadership** at all levels of government and across all sectors to inspire and energize Americans to commit to preventing and ending homelessness.



# The Plan

## Housing, Housing, Housing

**2. Provide affordable housing** to prevent and end homelessness.

- ⑩ Permanent supportive housing
- ⑩ Rapid Rehousing
- ⑩ Affordable housing



# The Plan

## Employment and Income

**3. Increase economic security** for people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness



# The Plan

## Health and Stability

**4. Increase health and stability** of vulnerable populations.





# The Plan

**Retool the crisis response system**

**5. Transform homeless services to crisis response systems** that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing

■



# Implementation Activities

- ⑩ Veterans and their families
- ⑩ Other families with children
- ⑩ Unaccompanied youth



# Veterans and their families

- ⑩ VA understands the new face of OEF/OIF Veterans
- ⑩ Increased focus on female Veterans and their families in DOL's HVRP program
- ⑩ Collaborative work to review barriers to mainstream programs for Veterans with families
- ⑩ Education and VA working together to ensure VA has information about educational rights of homeless children
- ⑩ Interagency push for PIT
- ⑩ Number of VASH vouchers helping Veteran families



# Collaboration - VA

- 10 VA Medical Centers have developed local VA 5 Year Plans; working with local stakeholders
- 10 USICH Council project: Improving access to mainstream programs for Veterans and their families
- 10 Education and VA: working together to improve understanding of the educational rights of homeless children
- 10 HUD and VA: improving data collection and reporting through 2011 PIT; Vets AHAR; HMIS



# Other families with children

- ⑩ Significant work on 10K Housing Choice Vouchers despite Congressional decision
- ⑩ Weekly interagency engagement
- ⑩ Common vocabulary discussion
- ⑩ HPRP
- ⑩ Engaging Education's state coordinator and local liaisons about local and state involvement





# Unaccompanied youth

- ⑩ USICH: increasing understanding through program visits and focus groups
- ⑩ Youth signature initiative: concept development
- ⑩ HUD and HHS: improving data collection and reporting through 2011 PIT; HMIS/RHYMIS
- ⑩ Significant dialogue among federal agencies and stakeholders
- ⑩ More interagency collaboration for foster youth and youth leaving juvenile justice



# Call to Action

- 10 Commit to goals and focus on results
- 10 Take action
- 10 Be active partners



# State Interagency Council on Homelessness

**Purpose:** coordinates the state-wide response to homelessness and helps insure alignment of state-wide and local plans with the vision, values, objective and strategies of Opening Doors.

Tennessee ICH is inactive



# Purpose of a State Council

- ⑩ **Create** a state plan to prevent and end homelessness that assesses overall needs, coordinates resources, and promotes national best practices.
- ⑩ **Recommend** policy, regulatory, and resource changes needed to accomplish the objectives outlined in the state plan.
- ⑩ **Ensure** accountability and results in implementation strategies.
- ⑩ **Create a state wide partnership** with local government through Continuums of Care and Ten Year Planning Councils.
- ⑩ **Promote** a research-driven, performance- based, results-oriented plan and implementation strategy.
- ⑩ **Sustain** a non-partisan approach to address homelessness.



# Establishing a State Council

Establish a State Interagency Council on Homelessness through:

- Executive Order of the Governor
- Executive Order and Legislative Action
- Legislative Action





# Council Membership

## 10 Representatives from the Governor's Office, Lieutenant Governor's Office

10 including Attorney General's Office and State Fiscal or Comptroller's Office

## 10 Secretaries & Commissioners (or their Representatives) from the following Departments, Agencies:

10 Health, Human Services, Economic Security, Medicaid, Housing, Housing Finance, Economic Development, Law Enforcement, Judicial System, Labor, Transportation, Corrections, Education, Veterans Affairs



# Council Membership

## Stakeholders

- Faith-Based Representatives
- United Way and Philanthropic Groups
- Local Federal Officials
- Business and Corporate Representatives
- People with first hand experience of homelessness (currently or formerly)
- Local Continuum of Care Representatives
- Providers of Homeless Services, including Veteran - serving Groups
- State Advocacy Group Members



# State Council: Development of a State Plan

## Key Elements

- ⑩ Develop measurable goals to end homelessness
- ⑩ Create and coordinate statewide data collection and reporting system
- ⑩ Design collaborative inter-agency initiatives on institutional re-entry
- ⑩ Map out a state-wide production plan for permanent, supportive housing
- ⑩ Coordinate goals and tasks of Balance of State Continuum of Care with local continuums
- ⑩ Promote systems integration (e.g. health services and housing supports) to increase effectiveness and efficiency



# Relationship with Local Plans

State takes on issues beyond reach of local plans:

- ⑩ State wide data: HMIS
- ⑩ Prisoner re-entry policies
- ⑩ Coordination of state housing resources
- ⑩ Guide overall production of permanent supportive housing
- ⑩ Insure alignment of local plans with national strategies such as Housing First
- ⑩ Policy guidance to rural and small community plans



# Assistance from USICH

- 10 Regional USICH Coordinators
- 10 Existing State Council documents are available to assist in the design of the mission and making of your State Council.
- 10 Clearinghouse of best practices and state contacts is maintained by USICH to support the implementation of State Council strategies.
- 10 Connection/Introduction to Technical Assistance by Council Member Agencies.





## USICH Homepage

Browse the site using the top tabs

Or

Search for information using the “Information By...” filter

Also read news, get calendar updates, or check out our latest profiles.



Browse research listings by *Opening Doors* objective or search for research by keyword.



## Access to Justice Research

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Home > Resources > Research and Evaluation > Access to Justice Research

### Homes Not Handcuffs: The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty and The National Coalition for the Homeless

July 2009

This joint report by the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (NLCHP) and the National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH) tracks a growing trend in U.S. cities - the criminalization of homelessness. The report focuses on specific city measures from 2007 and 2008 ...

### Assessing Criminal History as a Predictor of Future Housing Success for Homeless Adults With Behavioral Health Disorders

Daniel K. Malone

February 2009

Homeless adults with serious mental illnesses and chronic substance abuse problems have few housing options, a problem compounded when a criminal background is present. This study compared the criminal backgrounds and

Example page showing Access to Justice research listings.



# Programs

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Home > Funding & Programs > Programs

There are many federal programs that help to prevent and end homelessness. Some are specifically targeted toward this goal, while others, referred to as "mainstream programs" are available to all low-income persons who meet eligibility criteria. Please explore program profiles below according to the federal administering agency.

## ▼ Department of Labor

Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)

Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program

Job Corps

Stand Downs

Veterans' Workforce Investment Program

YouthBuild

## ▶ Department of Health and Human Services

## ▶ Department of Housing and Urban Development

Browse basic program information by Department.





# Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)

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[Home](#) > [Funding & Programs](#) > [Programs](#) > [Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program \(HVRP\)](#)

The Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) helps Veterans experiencing homelessness gain meaningful employment and increases the efficiency of collaborations across all programs serving Veterans experiencing homelessness.

## Related information by...

[Department of Labor](#)

[Veterans](#)

[Pathways to Employment](#)

[View the program website](#)

HVRP is the only federal program that works specifically on employment issues for Veterans experiencing homelessness while using a client-centered case management model to connect Veterans with other social services and benefits. Grant funded activities implemented by service providers include job placement, career counseling, job training programs and workshops, education/literacy workshops and resume writing. Case managers also work with Veterans to ensure that they are accessing the full spectrum of mainstream benefits and educational opportunities available to them from federal, state, and local sources.

## Eligible Applicants:

State and Local Workforce Investment Boards, public entities, and non-profits are eligible for this funding.

## Eligible Beneficiaries:

Homeless Veterans who were honorably discharged are eligible to receive benefits.

## Funding Mechanism:

Funds are distributed by the Veterans Employment and Training Services office of the Department of Labor directly to eligible applicants annually with a one-year grant period. Applicants may apply for funding in the following two years.

Example program page shows purpose of program, basic eligibility information, and how to get more information.



# Q&A

- Sign up for our newsletter at [www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)



# Q&A

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